

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY **REGION III**

841 Chestnut Building Philadeiphia, Pennsylvania 19107

JUN 1 4 1988

Mr. Martin Mellor 700 Browns Lane Croydon, PA 19020

Re: Nitrate Contamination of Residential Well

Dear Mr. Mellor: .

Due to apparent high nitrate concentrations previously detected in your private well, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) collected a second residential well water sample from your property during the week of May 15, 1988. Sampling results from our latest round of sampling indicate that your well water is below the 10-day health advisory concentration of 10 milligram per liter (mg/l) for nitrate as nitrogen (NO₂-N), and therefore does not pose a health threat at this time.

The previous sampling results are suspect due to EPA's later discovery that homes in this particular area currently do not use septic systems and have not for some time. In addition, the application of lawn fertilizers on a regular basis is not common. Septic systems and lawn fertilizers are common contributors of nitrates in ground water.

It is EPA policy to inform the public as expeditiously as possible of any threat to public health or the environment. Due to the absence of a common nitrate contaminate source in the area, it is apparent that the initial sampling results are in error. Therefore, please disregard our earlier letter of April 13, 1988.

If you should have any questions, please call me at (215) 597-1265.

Sincerely,

Krey B. Winegar

Remedial Project Manager

Pennsylvania Remedial Response Section